

Emeritus of the United States Senate; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3062. A bill to modify the date on which the Mayor of the District of Columbia submits a performance accountability plan to Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2000

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to improve upon the District of Columbia's process for measuring and reporting on its performance. This legislation derives directly from a letter sent to me by the Mayor of the District of Columbia, in which he requested that Congress consider making minor changes to the District's reporting requirements so that the city can take one step closer to establishing a system of performance budgeting, in which the city's budget can be linked directly to the performance goals set by the city's agencies. I am pleased that Senator DURBIN joins me as an original cosponsor of this bill.

Similar to the intent of Congress in passing the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, which re-engineered the management practices at federal agencies, the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Act of 1995 (DCFRMA) mandates that the District begin submitting performance accountability plans to Congress preceding each fiscal year. These plans are to establish objective, measurable performance goals for all agencies and departments within the government of the District of Columbia. The legislation also requires the District to submit to Congress a performance accountability report, following each fiscal year, that evaluates the city's ability to meet the performance goals it laid out in the performance accountability plan for that fiscal year.

For the past three fiscal years since the DCFRMA legislation took effect, the performance plans and reports have provided the District with a valuable tool to establish a system of accountability in its operations. The Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring, and the District of Columbia, which I chair, has held two oversight hearings on the District's progress in improving performance, and we are scheduled to hold another hearing in the coming weeks to evaluate the District's progress in accomplishing the goals it set out in its FY2000 performance accountability plan.

Although the performance accountability plan legislation has provided the District with an effective framework for establishing a system of performance budgeting, our bill proposes

minor changes to the law to improve the utility and relevance of this strategic planning exercise. First, current law provides that the performance accountability plan is due no later than March 1st preceding each fiscal year. However, in order to tie together the city's budget with the performance goals for each year, the Mayor requested that we consider harmonizing the submission deadline for the performance plan with the city's budget to Congress. In order to align the submission requirements, this legislation we are introducing today would change the submission deadline for the performance accountability plan from its current March 1st deadline, to a deadline that is concurrent with the submission of the District of Columbia budget to Congress. By making this change, we hope to align the budget and the performance measures more closely, and help guide the city toward a system of performance budgeting.

The second change made by this legislation is to streamline the performance goal requirements that were initially established in the DCFRMA. The current law mandates that, for every goal, the District must establish both an acceptable level of performance and a superior level of performance. Our bill proposes that the multiple levels of performance goals be replaced by one set of ambitious performance targets. This would clarify the goals District managers are expected to meet and align congressional mandates on the District with what is required of federal agencies.

Senator DURBIN and I hope these technical amendments to the performance plan requirements will allow the District to reform its management system more efficiently, and the subcommittee intends to actively monitor the city's progress in this regard.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3062

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN.

Section 456 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (section 47-231 et seq. of the District of Columbia Code) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "Not later than March 1 of each year (beginning with 1998)" and inserting "Concurrent with the submission of the District of Columbia budget to Congress each year (beginning with 2001)"; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A) by striking "that describe an acceptable level of performance by the government and a superior level of performance by the government"; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "1999" and inserting "2001"; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A) by striking "for an acceptable level of performance by the government and a superior level of performance by the government".

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 178

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Center for Social Work Research.

S. 309

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 309, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a member of the uniformed services shall be treated as using a principal residence while away from home on qualified official extended duty in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of such residence.

S. 876

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 876, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require that the broadcast of violent video programming be limited to hours when children are not reasonably likely to comprise a substantial portion of the audience.

S. 1322

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1322, a bill to prohibit health insurance and employment discrimination against individuals and their family members on the basis of predictive genetic information or genetic services.

S. 1391

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1391, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 2725

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2725, a bill to provide for a system of sanctuaries for chimpanzees that have been designated as being no longer needed in research conducted or supported by the Public Health Service, and for other purposes.

S. 3020

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3020, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to revise its regulations authorizing the operation of new, low-power FM radio stations.

S. 3028

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3028, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a transitional adjustment for certain sole community hospitals in order to limit any decline in payment under the prospective payment system